Journal Star

A-6 PEORIA, ILLINOIS, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1978

CONTINUING

The Peoria Transcript Established 1855 | The Peoria Journal Established 1877 | The Peoria Star Established 1897

Don't Trust Marina Oswald

I just, plain, flat-out do not believe the testimony of Marina Oswald.

It is too pat, and it simply does not make sense in light of the known facts.

She was the daughter of a KGB officer of rank, not some Siberian milk maid, in the Soviet Union when she and Lee Harvey Oswald met and married in a short six weeks — after he had already set in motion steps to qualify himself for return to the U.S.

Nor is it commonplace for people in his position — and even less so in hers — to get easy permission to leave the Soviet Union. Yet, these newlyweds got it very smoothly, indeed.

He never talked politics? And he never said anything but good of President Kennedy? Bunk!

Nor was Oswald the third-rate, half-cracked, rear-rank Marine he had been pictured when he went to Russia. He was a secrecy-cleared specialist in radar whose work brought him special knowledge in two areas of prime interest to Russian intelligence at that time — U-2 operations included.

Inquiry into his personal history reveals him to be "soured" not after they returned to Fort Worth as Marina indicates — but from age 15 on, and he was up to his ears in anti—Kennedy activities the whole time back in the States.

He told Marina about shooting at General Walker. His politico-social beliefs were no secret. He spouted them on TV news in New Orleans, in the papers and on street corners — attacking Kennedy for the Cuban invasion and absolutely livid about the missile crisis.

Marina's statements in this regard tally too closely with the effort made by her father's agency — the Soviet KGB — to sell the patently false notion that Oswald was just a nobody who came to live and work in a Russian factory, and in whom the KGB had no interest whatever.

(I was only there for a month at a time as a visitor and they took an active interest in me and many other visitors — and we had not been associated with the U-2 or other current military secrets nor expressed the open desire to reject our country and be helpful to the Soviets in any way possible . . . which Oswald clearly did.)

Indeed, you don't just wander into Russia in the first place — and he went there with remarkable smoothness and speed immediately upon leaving the Marine corps, in ways still mysterious.

The whole thing about Oswald's real history, nature, beliefs and activities through those years smells to high heaven — and so does the long effort to skip over it.

Even his Russian "diary" is a patent fake which analysts find was not written day by day but all manufactured in a few weeks — much later.

When Marina's "testimony" coincides with that faked diary and the claims of the KGB, I just don't believe her.

Note: The contradictory facts and the deep research into Oswald's record referred to here come from the book recently published by Edward Jay Epstein, a reliable researcher, after years of extracting from the FBI and CIA thousands of documents on the case he obtained under the new Freedom of Information Act and interviews with Oswald's former associates from school days and Marine duties as radarman to those with whom he worked or socialized in Dallas.

I do not see how the House committee can ignore those documents and those interviews. You can reasonably expect to hear more of that aspect — but it bothers me that they used Marina Oswald as a TV star for their continuing show — instead of cross-examining her on the basis of all the contrary data now available.

C.L.Dancey